

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Pharr-Reynosa International Bridge is one of the  
2 most important ports of entry on the United States-Mexico border;  
3 and

4           WHEREAS, Opened in 1994, the bridge spans 3.2 miles as it  
5 connects U.S. Highway 281 to the rapidly growing city of Reynosa,  
6 one of northern Mexico's major industrial cities, and it is  
7 crossed, on average, by 110,000-125,000 vehicles each month; and

8           WHEREAS, With its strategic location in an area that features  
9 extensive infrastructure and services as well as strong growth  
10 potential, the bridge bolsters the economies of both Pharr and  
11 Reynosa by improving the convenience of operations for importers,  
12 exporters, and domestic and multinational manufacturing companies;  
13 and

14           WHEREAS, The Pharr-Reynosa International Bridge is  
15 recognized as the most-utilized commercial bridge in South Texas;  
16 in 2014, it carried a record-setting \$30.62 billion in trade, an  
17 increase of \$2.17 billion or 7.63 percent over the previous year's  
18 total, and Pharr ranked no. 29 for total trade among the nation's  
19 roughly 450 airports, seaports, and border crossings; heavily used  
20 for the transport of produce, the bridge ranked first among U.S.  
21 air, sea, and land border crossings for avocados, melons, and  
22 berries, and it was no. 2 for tomato imports and for produce  
23 overall; and

24           WHEREAS, Commercial traffic enjoys the fastest crossing time

1 in the Rio Grande Valley at the Pharr-Reynosa International Bridge;  
2 known as "the intelligent bridge," this vital international  
3 transportation link employs the Free and Secure Trade "F.A.S.T.  
4 Lane" program, which allows for the expedited inspection of  
5 documents and cargoes, as well as the Automated Commercial  
6 Environment program; in addition, bridge security uses gamma ray  
7 inspection equipment and other state-of-the-art technology;  
8 current data indicates the increase in commercial truck traffic at  
9 the bridge reflects industry confidence in the port's safety,  
10 convenience, and prompt adaptation to the needs and expectations of  
11 international commerce representatives; and

12 WHEREAS, The bridge's success has been made possible through  
13 the outstanding efforts of many area residents, including members  
14 of the city commission and the bridge's board of directors, which is  
15 composed of elected officials and community representatives;  
16 moreover, the many skilled and dedicated individuals involved in  
17 the bridge's operations and maintenance are essential to its  
18 mission, as are the local staff and officers of the U.S. Department  
19 of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and its  
20 U.S. Customs and Border Protection agency; and

21 WHEREAS, The Pharr-Reynosa International Bridge plays an  
22 important role in this country's international trade, and it has  
23 contributed significantly to the economic development of the Rio  
24 Grande Valley and to the prosperity of the Lone Star State; now,  
25 therefore, be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
27 Legislature hereby recognize the Pharr-Reynosa International

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1 Bridge for its major significance as a port of entry and extend  
2 sincere appreciation to all those whose work has furthered the  
3 bridge's operation.

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2835 was adopted by the House on May 21, 2015, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House